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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ANKARA 006754

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR G/TIP, G, INL, DRL, EUR/PGI, EUR/SE

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TIP IN TURKEY: TURKISH MEDIA ATTENTION, November 1-15, 2005

1. In response to G/TIP inquiries, national and international media sources published the following news articles about TIP in Turkey. Text of articles originally published in Turkish is provided through unofficial local FSN translation.
2. Published by Milliyet and also reported by Vatan, Sabah and Radikal on Tuesday, November 1:

TITLE: Slave children's camp in Tekirdag

BEGIN TEXT: Ugur Dundar's Arena program, aired on Kanal D and CNN Turk, showed the plight of child workers who were made to work like slaves at brick factories.

Dundar, accompanied by Labor Ministry inspectors, visited the factory and brought to light the unhealthy working conditions. He also showed how he was detained by the Jandarma.

The Arena team, following a tip that was received from Tekirdag, documented that many children were made to work under incredible conditions at brick factories.

Children who were employed illegally were carrying heavy bricks in the mist of dust and soil. They were sleeping in unhealthy conditions at night. Even girls were working under the same conditions.

Dundar and his team entered a brick factory and interviewed the children. Upon the factory owner's application, the Jandarma detained Dundar and his team in Kumbag. They were released after three hours.

Murat Ayhan Basaran, Department Head for Child Labor at the Labor Ministry, said that children must not be employed under those conditions.

Highlights of the interview with the children included:

-- How old were you when you began to work here?
-- Nine.

-- Do you wear a mask?
-- No.

-- You have been here for one and a half months. How many times did you have meat to eat?
-- Twice.

-- What do you do for ten hours?
-- We clean the premises. It is hard. There is dirt and stone. We are constantly in dust. You cannot see around.

-- How much money do you get?
-- I get 10 million TL (less than 8 USD) a day.

-- Have you received that money?
-- Not yet.

-- Why are you washing your mouth?
-- It is full of dust.

-- When you spit, do you feel the dust?
-- Yes.

-- How do you describe this place?
-- I would say that working conditions are very hard. The daily payment is low. Sleeping (here) is awful.

-- In other words, you are saying that it is not suitable to sleep?
-- When you go inside, (you see) bedbugs. You can see (on me) their marks. END TEXT.

3. Published by Moldova.org on Friday, November 4:

TITLE: Woman trafficked to Kosovo becomes pimp in Moldova

BEGIN TEXT: The capital's police have detained a resident of Anenii Noi district who is suspected of

trafficking many young girls to Kosovo.

According to the General Police Commissariat, Carolina Gherasimov, 25, was arrested in an apartment on Ginta Latina Street from the capital, together with three young girls who were to be trafficked soon to Kosovo.

Gherasimov is also suspected of procuring in Moldova. The cited source says that the forces of order discovered three cases of trafficking organized by Gherasimov. The suspect registered all the necessary documents for transporting the victims. She was cooperating with a person from Kosovo who is still unidentified.

Upon investigation it was established that Gherasimov was earlier trafficked to Kosovo, where she practiced prostitution. The police found out that while registering the documents Gherasimov forced the young girls to provide intimate services for clients from Moldova.

Criminal proceedings were instituted on the basis of Articles 220 and 165 of the Penal Code (procuring) and (trafficking in human beings), which stipulate jail terms of up to 25 years.

Sergiu Purcica, division head at the Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, told REPORTER.MD that 216 cases of trafficking in persons, 47 cases of trafficking in children and 90 cases of procuring were registered in the first nine months of the current year. Purcica specified that Turkey, the Arab Emirates and Russia, especially Moscow, are the most attractive centers of activity for traffickers at present. END TEXT.

14. Published by Milliyet and same story picked up by Bugun and Vatan on Wednesday, November 9:

TITLE: They marketed a Russian woman with AIDS to 200 people

BEGIN TEXT: It was claimed that three foreign women captured in operations carried out by the Foreigners' Police were HIV positive and carrying Hepatitis B. It was also claimed that the women had sexual contact with many businessmen and sportsmen.

Moldovan Natalia Gribal informed authorities that she was forced into prostitution. Police raided a hotel on Istiklal Street (in Istanbul) and Gribal was saved from the hands of the network. Alina Muradova, the alleged ring leader, was detained, and her deputy, Melisa Kagan Chitvas, fled.

Natali Matinga, Anzhelika Marchenko and Inna Belkusova, who were forced into prostitution by the network, were detained. Following their medical check, it was found out that Moldovan Natalia Matinga was HIV positive, and Russians Anzhelika Marchenko and Inna Belkusova had Hepatitis B. It was reported that Matinga, who had AIDS, has been with approximately 200 people. END TEXT.

15. Published by Sabah on Thursday, November 10:

TITLE: Natasha by accident

BEGIN TEXT: Kiev-born movie actress, Milla Jovovich, is going in front of the cameras to portray a Russian sex slave. Thirty-year-old Jovovich shares top billing with Kevin Kline in the film, "Welcome to America." In the film she plays a woman who goes to America to be a childcare giver, but later finds herself in Mexico as a sex slave. The film, with a budget of 12 million dollars, was written by Roland Emmerich and will be produced by Marco Kreuzpaintner. END TEXT.

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